

CLAIMS

1. A method for automatically generating an XML map comprising the steps of:

receiving an XML environment;

creating a target model and a source model in accordance with predetermined rules, with one of said models being an XML model and the other of said models being a flat file or data base model;

creating business rules for moving data from a source file to a target file for a plurality of defining items in the source model;

creating a run file with file names for generating said map.

2. The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising the step of:
creating test data for each of said plurality of defining items.

3. The method as defined in claim 2, wherein said test data is created based on the structure of the source model and the properties of the defining elements from said source model.

4. The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising the step of creating at least one ID code file from an attribute list in said XML environment.

5. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said creating business rules step comprises creating a business rule for all defining items in said source model.

6. The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising the step of simultaneously displaying said source model and said target model on a single display.

7. The method as defined in claim 5, further comprising the step of moving at least one element in one of the source and target models to a different location within that one model.

8. The method as defined in claim 6, wherein said moving step comprises drag and dropping said element over a desired location within the one model.

9. The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising the step of manually creating a business rule by drag and dropping an element in one of said source and target models to an element in the other of said source and target models.

10. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the run file includes a source file, a source model, a target file, a target model, a source access file, and a target access file.

11. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the XML environment is one of an XML DTD, and XML schema, and an XML message.

12. The method as defined in claim 1, comprising the step of providing a user interface to permit the selection of an inbound or an outbound map.

13. The method as defined in claim 12, wherein the provided user interface permits the addition of specific rules for controlling the transfer of data between a source element and a target element.

14. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the created source and target models use substantially the names or elements or defining items of the XML environment.

15. The method as defined in claim 14, wherein the defining item names are in the same order in the created source and target models immediately after the model creation step.

16. The method as defined in claim 2, wherein the test data is an XML message.

17. The method as defined in claim 2, wherein the test data is a flat file or a data base.

18. The method as defined in claim 17, wherein the test data is generated based on information in the source model.

19. The method as defined in claim 18, wherein the XML message contains a Prolog and a Preamble.

20. The method as defined in claim 18, wherein the XML message comprises, if said XML environment is an XML DTD or an XML schema, all defining items or elements in the XML DTD or the XML schema.

21. The method as defined in claim 18, wherein each piece of test data for the defining item or element is created to be consistent with the properties of the defining item and using attributes from an attribute list for that defining item, if such an attribute list is included in the XML DTD or XML schema.

22. The method as defined in claim 20, wherein the test data for the defining item/element is in the same sequence as defined in the XML environment.

23. The method as defined in claim 18, wherein the generated test data for defining item is a tag name for the defining element.

24. A system for automatically generating an XML map comprising:
a first component to receive an XML environment;
a second component to create a target model and a source model in accordance with predetermined rules, with one of said models being an XML model and the other of said models being a flat file or data base model;
a third component to create business rules for moving data from a source file to a target file for a plurality of defining items in the source model;
a fourth component to create a run file with file names for generating said map.

25. A program product for automatically generating an XML map comprising the following machine readable program code:

first code for receiving an XML environment;

second code for creating a target model and a source model in accordance with predetermined rules, with one of said models being an XML model and the other of said models being a flat file or data base model;

third code for creating business rules for moving data from a source file to a target file for a plurality of defining items in the source model;

fourth code for creating a run file with file names for generating said map.